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again there is so much of interest to praise that criticism seems to argue a lack of a sense of proportion, but a word or two should be said about his description of Rousseau's *Contrat Social*. As a résumé it is well enough, but it lacks an adequate statement of the historical significance of the book. Whether Rousseau altogether intended it or not his *Contrat Social* was a counterblast to the assertion of the lawyers that the king was a sovereign absolute in his authority. The king's will has the force of law, said the legists; the law is the expression of the common will, declared Rousseau. Everything in all our states belongs to me, wrote Louis XIV.; the king is merely a commissioner who may be dismissed at any time, Rousseau replied. If his theories disturbed the placid faith of the men of 1762 in the divine right of kings, they served their historic purpose, and the question of their soundness or unsoundness is a secondary matter.

In these volumes Mr. Perkins concludes his study of the old Bourbon monarchy from the death of the most brilliant of the dynasty to the death of the most despicable. Will he also undertake the Revolution?

HENRY E. BOURNE.

The War of Greek Independence, 1821 to 1833. By W. ALISON PHILLIPS. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1897. Pp. vi, 428.)

WE take up this book with serious concern. Is it another cake half-baked to be thrown on a momentary market; or is it a just, adequate and readable account of the struggle which brought Greece back into the family of living nations? For such a history the English reader has waited hitherto in vain; and there never was a time when it was more sorely needed. If in this work the Senior Scholar of St. John's College, Oxford, has measured up to his opportunity, he is to be acclaimed and crowned.

At the outset he is disappointing. He gives the impression of dealing with his subject at too long range. The Greek sources are practically ignored. Not a word between these covers betrays any knowledge of Spyridon Trikoupes' four-volume history; while the performance of Prokesch von Osten is in constant requisition. Yet one would think the Greek statesman, describing as eye-witness and participant the uprising of his own people, were as well worth reckoning with as the Austrian minister at Athens (1834-1849), in his character *als eifrigster Vertreter der Integrität der Türkei*, compiling a diplomatic history of the struggle mainly to vindicate the Eastern policy of his master Metternich. Use is made of another contemporary history also written at Athens—that of George Finlay; but strangely enough only of the edition of 1861, although Finlay rewrote the work after that date, and for his matured views one must go to Tozer's edition of 1877. Gordon's contemporary work is cited from time to time; but Dr. Howe's *Historical Sketch* (1828), abounding as it does in most graphic first-hand portraits of the chief ac-

tors, is quoted but once (p. 171) and then under the name of Dr. S. G. *Home*. The author's main reliance seems to be Mendelssohn-Bartholdy—undoubtedly the fairest, as he is the most genial, historian of the Revolution, but in no sense a first-hand authority. Now it would seem that an Oxford scholar, undertaking even a popular account of a movement that has profoundly affected and still affects the history of Europe, might fairly be expected to go back to the original sources when they lie so near at hand.

A more serious shortcoming, however, is a certain lack of background. The Greek struggle can never be understood without a vivid view of the four hundred years of Turkish domination behind it; and this Phillips' opening chapter of eighteen meagre pages is quite inadequate to give. But even in this brief sketch it is well-nigh incredible that we have not one word about the crowning iniquity of Moslem rule—the blood-tribute of Christian children, which stirs the soul even of the phlegmatic Finlay.

It may be due to this lack of perspective in the author's own vision, that in his earlier pages he is always putting the Greeks in the wrong. Thus, in the matter of barbarity, the Greek is a butcher whose innate lust of blood is calculated to bring out the unstrained quality of Moslem mercy. The reader is not warned of the normal result of four hundred years' schooling under the Moslem—of the subjection of Greeks on Greek soil to a handful of conquerors alien and antipodal to them in race and religion and civilization, who drain their best blood for the satisfaction of their own lust and the enforcement of their lawless power—until cumulative oppression ripens its inevitable harvest in a national vendetta. Once given the historic background, and we see that in the nature of things a Greek uprising meant a war of extermination. Bearing this in mind, we can hardly acquit Mr. Phillips of something very like a perversion of history. The excesses of the Greeks are detailed with circumstance, while Turkish butcheries are but lightly touched; for example, he dwells on the bloodiest detail of the sack of Tripolitza, while he ignores the refinements of Moslem barbarity at Chios, where "even the sick in the hospitals and the inmates of the asylums for the deaf, blind and insane were butchered."

In one instance, too, there is something very like an inversion of history. Take the fourth chapter with the storming of Tripolitza as its dramatic climax; then turn to the fifth with its outline captions: "*Turkish Reprisals—Execution of the Patriarch*," etc. "*When the news of the Greek atrocities in the Morea reached Constantinople*, the slumbering embers of Mohammedan fanaticism burst into flame and raged with uncontrollable fury. Sultan Mahmoud now wished to prove by a signal example that he *took up the challenge*. In the early morning of the 22d of April . . . the venerable Gregorios, still in his sacred robes, was led forth and hung before the gate of the patriarchal palace." *Reprisals*, indeed! What reader would suspect that the "challenge" taken up by Mahmoud on Easter day at Constantinople was not thrown down by the Greeks at Tripolitza until the October following? If *post hoc* is not

propter hoc, much less is *ante hoc*; and we prefer the clear ring of Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (I. 231): "Es [Tripolitza] war die griechische Antwort auf den Mord des Patriarchen."

Still, with all fair deductions, the work turns out to be on the whole a just and sympathetic history of the struggle. As the author advances in his task and warms to his subject the righteousness of the cause and the heroic devotion of the people win no stinted recognition. With incompetent and factious leadership, the immemorable bane of Greece, he has as little patience as Finlay, though his insight into the popular character with its heroic qualities which alone sustained the revolution naturally falls short of Finlay's. Yet his story of the heroic defense of Missolonghi could have been written only by one who felt the native mettle of the old Greek freeman still proof against the debasements of ages of subjection. In the brave and steadfast Miaoulis, the author discerns a modern Kallikratidas; and a true hero in Karaiskakes. His judgment of Capodistrias' régime is severely just, though the final estimate of his character (p. 372 f.) is generous. In all her vicissitudes Greece has hardly ever fared worse than under her own chosen president—a Corfiote Greek with a Venetian title who had risen by his peculiar diplomatic talents to be the czar's foreign minister, and who came back to Greece ready to play the rôle of a Greek czar if he could or that of a Russian proconsul if he must. It was in the latter rôle that he was first checked by the stern virtue of Miaoulis and finally by the pistol and dirk of the Mauromichales; and whatever else be said for him, the intrigues that cost his country a statesman-king in Leopold can never be condoned.

To British actors in the drama, whether in field or cabinet, Mr. Phillips metes out just praise or blame; and, if Cochrane and Church come off with dubious honors, and Lord Byron is not over-praised (p. 144), Hastings makes a very gallant figure (p. 259 f.) and Codrington at Navarino and after rises to the level of the grandest names in English naval history. Not that our author's account of Navarino is up to his best. As compared with the siege of Missolonghi, the destruction of Dramalis's army in the Dervenaki, and other vivid passages, the great sea-fight is rather baldly related, but the consequences of that "untoward event" are brought out with clearness and vigor. It is interesting to be reminded that "the *Times* referred to it as an outrage on a friendly power, as worse than a crime, as a blunder;" and that "it was argued at large whether Codrington should be rewarded or tried by court-martial." Had Canning lived and Codrington remained in Greek waters with proper support, the history of New Greece would have taken a very different course and England's position in Eastern Europe could hardly have come to be as humiliating as it is to-day. To disown Navarino as a blunder was the gravest blunder in modern history, but it was in keeping with the whole blundering policy of England in the East, and of the European Concert generally. "Nothing can be more certain," says our author, "than that if the question had been left to the cabinets of Europe, Greece would never have been freed. It was as a matter of fact to

the peoples of Europe and not to their governments that Greece owed her liberty. . . . In the settlement of the Greek question, it was England that acted as a drag on the counsels of Europe. . . . England in fact, through her anxiety to maintain Turkey as a barrier against Muscovite aggression, played straight into the hands of Russia. . . . The net result, then, of sixty years of British diplomacy in the East is that, at the present moment, every vestige of influence which England ever possessed at Constantinople has vanished, and Greece, which might have been a bulwark of British power in the Mediterranean, lies crushed and bleeding beneath the heel of the Turk."

After all abatements and in the face of present bankruptcy and ruin, Mr. Phillips concludes that "the Greeks are capable of making great sacrifices for the sake of a national ideal; and it is possible that, with a wider field on which to work, their conceptions of duty and patriotism would likewise expand. To maintain that the Greeks are, as a race, incapable of establishing and maintaining a powerful state, is to ignore the teaching of a long, if comparatively neglected, period of history. The Byzantine Empire was a Greek state, and, hopelessly corrupt as it doubtless too often proved itself at the centre, it nevertheless preserved civilization and the remains of ancient culture for a thousand years against the flood of barbarism which from the north and east threatened to overwhelm them. . . . And the Greeks of to-day are very much what their fathers were before them."

On the whole, the book is one to be welcomed as the first successful attempt to tell the story of the founding of the new Greek state—for it goes beyond the War for Independence, which ended in 1829 (see p. 236)—within the limits of a volume and in a style to fix and hold attention. From cover to cover there is hardly a dull page, while the narrative flows strongly on and rises on occasion to the high-water mark of historical style. Open to criticism as the book fairly is, the reader who follows to the end, as most will certainly do, will find in the author his own best antidote.

J. IRVING MANATT.

The Sacrifice of a Throne, being an account of the Life of Amadeus, Duke of Aosta, sometime King of Spain. By H. REMSEN WHITEHOUSE. (New York: Bonnell, Silver and Co. 1897. Pp. 328.)

WE are indebted to Mr. Whitehouse for a clever and interesting book, the best picture we have of the election and abdication of Amadeus, with illuminating sidelights from Italian history thrown upon the early and the later life of the monarch. Having had exceptional facilities for forming a correct judgment, growing out of his diplomatic career, the author has used his advantages well and given us a view of a pathetic life and of one of the most interesting episodes in modern history. The early life of Amadeus, his education, marriage, love of manly sports, military career, and what occurred after his return "home," his active